

Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20554

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**FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**

In the Matter of)
)
SPRINT CORPORATION,)
)
Transferor,)
)
and)
)
MCI WORLDCOM, INC.,)
)
Transferee,)
)
For Consent to Transfer Control.)

CC Docket No. 99-333

Comments of

Telecommunications Research & Action Center

February 18, 2000

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List A B C D E

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I. STATEMENT OF INTEREST

Telecommunications Research and Action Center (TRAC) is a 20 year old Washington, DC based non-profit consumer group that educates and advocates for the interest of residential and small business telephone consumers. It is the publisher of TeleTips™, which compares long distance rates for residential and small business consumers. TRAC also sponsors an Internet site <http://www/trac.org/> that, among other services, allows consumers to do real time rate comparisons for long distance service.

II. INTRODUCTION

The Telecommunications Research and Action Center (TRAC) has been reporting on changes in the long distance market ever since competition first emerged. TRAC publishes TeleTips™, a comparison of long distance rates and plans, twice a year, with monthly updates inserted in the chart for those who subscribe. A copy of the December 1999 edition of TeleTips™ is enclosed.

When MCI WorldCom and Sprint announced their intentions to file a merger application with the Federal Communications Commission (the Commission) on October 6, 1999, there was a flurry of press coverage. The Telecommunications Research and Action Center (TRAC) was one of the first consumer organizations to go public with serious reservations.

“We believe the proposed merger between MCI Worldcom and Sprint raises a bright red flag and warrants the closest scrutiny by all regulatory agencies with jurisdiction over each aspect of the merger. What are the consumers benefits?”¹

¹ Telecommunications Research and Action Center Release, October 5, 1999, <http://trac.policy.net/proactive/newsroom/release>

Four months later and following a review of the merger application filed with the Commission, TRAC continues to doubt the public good of allowing MCI WorldCom to merge with Sprint. We are especially concerned about reduced competition in the long distance and Internet backbone markets and the implications this will have on consumers. TRAC requests that the Commission give serious consideration to our views during the formal review process.

III. CONSUMERS LOSE COMPETITION, CHOICE AND INNOVATION

It is our experience that every major innovation in long distance pricing has come from either MCI WorldCom or Sprint. Indeed, when the April, 1999 edition of TeleTipsTM was published, both MCI/WorldCom and Sprint announced new long distance pricing plans. Sprint first offered residential customers Nickel Nights. MCI WorldCom countered and offered two new plans called Everyday and Everyday Plus. What is clear, is that AT&T has always followed these innovations, they have never led them.

In addition to competing on rates, long distance companies compete on terms and conditions of their long distance plans. TeleTipsTM also includes a comparison chart on services offered by long distance companies. These services and the associated terms and conditions change regularly. They can also be confusing and are not necessarily in the best interest of all customers all the time. The pace and scope of the changes have been the hallmark of the long distance market since Sprint sent shockwaves through the industry with its all fiber network. Yet, without rigorous competition, the pace and character of innovation and change will suffer.

TRAC cannot imagine that competition and innovation will continue in the long distance market when there are only two major carriers—AT&T and MCI WorldCom. In addition, there will be little incentive for the newly merged company to provide consumers with reductions in long distance rates. That is why reducing the number of major long distance service providers from three to two carriers is not good for competition, choice or consumers. TRAC opposes the merger between MCI WorldCom and Sprint because it will create a duopoly in the long distance market. With the merger, the long distance market for residential service will be essentially divided between two companies, with the remainder of the industry uninterested and/or unable to capture any meaningful share. Given the cost of national marketing campaigns, it is clear that the two giants will have little interest in competing on price since the result of marketing will be only relatively slight movements in total market share.

We urge the Commission to keep competition alive and thriving by denying the proposed merger application.

IV. CONSUMERS WILL FACE HIGHER COSTS WITH MERGER

An initial concern of TRAC was that consumers would experience the negative effects of the proposed MCI WorldCom-Sprint merger *while* the Commission was reviewing the matter. The potential for a de facto duopoly to emerge during the review process was predicted and to our dismay, we see symptoms of such a phenomenon occurring.

For example, as recent as January, 2000, AT&T raised the cost of their interstate long distance directory assistance service from \$0.99 per call to \$1.49 per call to compete with Sprint's charge of \$1.40 per call. In April, 1999, Sprint was only charging \$1.10 for

long distance directory assistance service. It would not surprise TRAC if MCI WorldCom followed suit and raised their rates too. Consequently, consumers are bearing the brunt of corporate collaboration instead of incurring the benefits of a thriving and competitive market. Long distance costs are going up under the current scenario and TRAC knows that a duopoly will further exacerbate the situation. TRAC requests that the Commission to do everything in its power to ensure consumers continue to enjoy the benefits of competition *while* the MCI WorldCom and Sprint merger is under review. TRAC also asks the Commission to uphold the tenets of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, which was enacted to provide consumers with competition, and not eliminate a major long distance carrier from the market.

V. SMALL BUSINESSES FILE SUIT AGAINST MCI WORLDCOM

In addition to ensuring consumers benefit from proposed merger, the Commission must also consider the need to protect consumers from unscrupulous behavior as well as from unintended consequences of the merger. TRAC urges the Commission to consider a recent example of how harm can fall on consumers when they are not advised of their contract terms which was brought to light by a recent Washington Post's article, "*MCI's Fine Art of Fine Print.*" According to Washington Post Reporter Carolyn Mayer, the practice of resolving disputes through arbitration, rather than in the courts, is not unusual, however, MCI WorldCom business customers are not made aware of that obligation in their contracts.

" . . . MCI has taken the art of fine print even further, sticking its arbitration rules in perhaps the ultimate obscure document—its tariff filing at the Federal Communications Commission."²

² See Carolyn E. Mayer, "MCI's Fine Art of Fine Print," Washington Post, December 14, 1999

This business practice cost one small business owner \$22,000 and now a handful of companies have filed suit with the Commission.

As the Commission knows, tariff filings are documents exchanged between the industry and the FCC, and rarely known outside that circle, let alone consumers. It is outrageous to presume that customers will (or should have to) track down public documents to determine if there are any provisions that might impact their contract with a company. What documents and from where? TRAC agrees with the sentiments expressed by Philadelphia lawyer Alan Kaplinsky,

“There needs to be something more than [tariff filing] to let the consumer know they’re waiving the right to jury trial.”³

Business customers should not lose thousands of dollars because MCI WorldCom fails to notify customers of their contract terms in a fair and open manner.

TRAC believes it is valid to examine how each company presently interacts with consumers because it is an indication of how the newly merged company will behave in the future. We find this behavior to be unacceptable and we urge the Commission to protect consumers by preventing a newly merged company to adopt a similar practice.

VI. CONSUMERS FEAR MARKET CONCENTRATION

At the close of 1999, TRAC installed an on-line advocacy tool on its website for TRAC subscribers and other interested parties so they could participate in the MCI WorldCom-Sprint merger review process⁴. Over 70 consumers in 29 states and the District of Columbia were so concerned about the proposed merger that they opted to send electronic letters of opposition to the Commission and the Department of Justice.

³ IBID.

⁴ See TRAC website at: www.trac.org

Their concerns echoed many of the points covered by TRAC, Communications Workers of America (CWA) and the press. In particular their concerns highlighted their fears of market concentration.

“I am writing to let you know that I am opposed to the proposed merger between MCI WorldCom and Sprint. The merger will reduce the already highly concentrated and distance market from three major carriers to two. This puts us one step closer to a monopoly, and that’s bad news for consumers. . .”⁵

Equally of concern to consumers is the impact this merger will have on the market concentration of the Internet backbone.

“I also understand that this merger will combine the largest and second largest Internet backbone providers, giving one company control over 2/3 of the Information Superhighway. This is completely unacceptable, and once again, threatens a competitive environment . . . you must prevent market domination in this arena.”⁶

TRAC urges the Commission to take to give serious consideration to the messages of individual consumers outside the Washington, DC beltway because the MCI WorldCom-Sprint merger will directly affect them.

VII. CONCLUSION

Competition is the hallmark of our economic system. It offers incentive to launch and expand businesses. It creates an environment for innovation and efficiencies. It produces options and it acts as a downward pull on the cost of products and services. The Telecommunications Act of 1996 recognized the need to expand competition in the telecommunications industry to achieve many of these same end results. Congress directed the Commission to undertake regulatory changes and to make decisions that

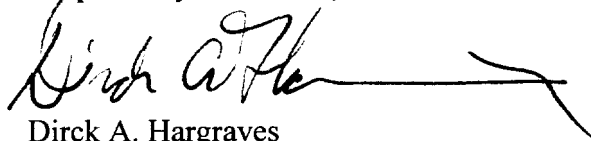
⁵IBID.

⁶ Id.

would foster a robust telecommunications market accessible and affordable to all consumers.

TRAC appreciates that the telecommunications industry is rapidly changing and the Commission is faced with many regulatory reviews, including the MCI WorldCom-Sprint merger application. However, the rapidly changing nature of the telecommunications industry is not reason enough to grant approval to the MCI WorldCom-Sprint merger. The Commission must weigh the impact this merger will have on competition, consumer choice, quality of service, and economic expansion. TRAC offers the Commission our views and anecdotal evidence that implies the MCI WorldCom-Sprint merger is not in the best interest of consumers. We contend that without movement on a number of other different regulatory fronts, including access reform, RBOC entry into long distance markets, tariff filings, and data relief, the MCI WorldCom-Sprint is pre-mature and anti-competitive.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dirck A. Hargraves", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dirck A. Hargraves
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Tele

December 1999

Residential Long Distance Comparison Chart (#39)

TM

SELECTING THE RIGHT LONG DISTANCE OPTION

Picking the right long distance option for residential customers is getting harder by the day. New plans, new companies and an array of fees and conditions make it increasingly difficult to find the best choice. This chart will help you make the best choice and therefore save money while getting the features and services you want.

HOW TO COMPARE OPTIONS

Determine Your Monthly Spending. The process starts with understanding your calling pattern. Review your long distance phone bills for the last three to six months. See how much on average you spend not just for your dialed calls from home, but also for fees, minimums, directory assistance and calling card calls.

Determine Your Calling Pattern, such as frequently dialed numbers or time of day calls are made. Recognizing patterns will help you determine which category you fit into in TRAC's comparison chart.

Find Your Category on the Chart. TRAC has created three typical calling baskets, based on the time of day most calls are made, to reflect calling patterns. First, locate your typical calling pattern. If you make the same number of calls during days, evenings, nights and weekends, compare the rates in the average day use section. If you make most calls during the day, look at the rates in the heavy day use section. If most of your calls are made at night and on the weekends, refer to the heavy night and weekend section. Make

sure you know which time periods are considered for discounts by the plan you are comparing. This information is located in the "Plan Descriptions."

Next, find the pattern that comes closest to the total time and money you typically spend on long distance monthly. To calculate these numbers, total the number of minutes and the money you spent over three to six months, then divide each total by the number of months used to calculate your monthly average for time and dollar amount spent. Then find the column that best reflects your calling pattern.

Compare Plans. After finding your category and column, look for the least expensive calling plans. Read each plan's description to ensure that you meet the requirements to receive discounted rates and that the plan includes all the features and services you desire.

Research the Plans. Determine which plans you are interested in and follow up with additional research. Call carriers to confirm that their plans would indeed be the best for you, that the rates are still the same, and that the features and services you want are still offered.

EVALUATING FEATURES & SERVICES

The "Features and Services" and "Plan Descriptions" will help you compare the various plans. Prioritizing your long distance needs helps ensure that you choose the plan that makes the most sense for you.

KEEP UP TO DATE

The long distance industry is undergoing dramatic changes. As a result, rates, features and terms-of-service are also changing rapidly.

The best ways to keep up to date are: (1) call your carrier every month while paying your bill and ask them to review your plan to make sure you are on the best plan for your actual calling patterns; (2) use TRAC's WebPricer to compare rates on a frequent basis (<http://www.trac.org>); and (3) become a member of TRAC to get periodic updates of the Comparison Chart.

LOW VOLUME USERS

If you don't make that many calls and don't want to pay the minimum, consider asking your local phone company to disconnect you from your long distance carrier. Local phone companies will charge a fee of up to \$1.04 a month for not having a pre-selected carrier, but it is less than most carriers charge. To make long distance calls without a long distance carrier, you will need to use calling cards, 10-10 numbers, dial collect or make toll free calls.

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Long Distance

Plans

Average Daily Use¹

Heavy Day Use¹

6 Calls 53 Min	12 Calls 106 Min	18 Calls 159 Min	36 Calls 318 Min	60 Calls 530 Min	180 Calls 1590 Min	6 Calls 43 Min	12 Calls 86 Min	18 Calls 129 Min	36 Calls 258 Min	60 Calls 430 Min	180 Calls 1290 Min
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Flat Rate Plans With Single Time Period⁵

AT&T Dial 1 Standard	\$12.16	\$28.44	\$42.47	\$78.39	\$120.89	\$311.84
MCI Dial 1 Standard**	\$10.76	\$29.75	\$44.68	\$82.65	\$130.58	\$337.44
Qwest Standard	\$9.40	\$19.10	\$28.25	\$51.75	\$82.15	\$222.45
Sprint Dial 1 Standard	\$14.20	\$33.11	\$49.87	\$93.93	\$148.17	\$392.74

Flat Rate Plans With Single Time Period⁵

AT&T One Rate	\$9.79	\$23.81	\$35.03	\$62.85	\$97.57	\$237.69
AT&T One Rate w/CC	\$10.79	\$20.08	\$28.27	\$51.36	\$81.35	\$220.14
AT&T One Rate 7¢	\$12.06	\$23.28	\$31.30	\$48.96	\$69.84	\$136.44
AT&T One Rate 7¢ w/CC	\$13.06	\$19.55	\$24.54	\$37.47	\$53.62	\$118.89
AT&T One Rate Saver	\$14.14	\$24.66	\$31.88	\$47.00	\$64.42	\$112.64
AT&T One Rate Save w/CC	\$15.14	\$20.93	\$25.12	\$35.51	\$48.20	\$95.09
Excel Dime Deal	\$8.28	\$17.37	\$25.41	\$43.70	\$66.59	\$160.98
Excel Simply 7	\$10.85	\$18.89	\$25.73	\$40.21	\$57.91	\$124.73
Frontier One	\$8.35	\$18.29	\$27.09	\$51.65	\$83.51	\$230.62
Frontier Select	\$10.86	\$18.95	\$25.63	\$38.52	\$61.22	\$159.67
Matrix Just 9.9	\$6.16	\$14.68	\$22.38	\$40.63	\$63.75	\$163.15
Matrix Members Plus	\$10.96	\$19.10	\$26.38	\$43.28	\$64.55	\$154.12
Matrix SaversPlan	\$10.19	\$18.55	\$26.09	\$43.80	\$66.18	\$161.64
MCI 5¢ Anytime**	\$12.71	\$20.65	\$24.78	\$37.32	\$52.16	\$96.70
Qwest Home 5¢ Calling Plan	\$13.75	\$18.30	\$22.00	\$31.15	\$42.60	\$89.75
Sprint Sense Anytime	\$11.98	\$25.68	\$36.16	\$54.47	\$83.13	\$185.70
Sprint Sense Anytime w/ FONCARD	\$18.48	\$25.27	\$31.49	\$48.25	\$69.99	\$170.96

Flat Rate Plans With Multiple Time Periods⁶

AT&T One Rate Plus 5¢ Sundays	\$11.89	\$23.61	\$32.83	\$52.65	\$76.52	\$161.89
AT&T One Rate Plus 5¢ Sundays w/ CC	\$12.89	\$19.88	\$26.07	\$41.16	\$60.30	\$144.34
Excel Three Penny Plan	\$12.46	\$20.78	\$28.82	\$45.57	\$63.07	\$139.75
Frontier Home Connections	\$9.72	\$21.63	\$32.92	\$63.93	\$100.14	\$283.41
Matrix Premier Residential	\$8.86	\$18.74	\$29.41	\$56.79	\$87.00	\$251.69
MCI One Savings**	\$9.77	\$26.59	\$41.62	\$76.61	\$115.98	\$294.12
MCI Everyday**	\$11.27	\$28.09	\$42.53	\$76.93	\$114.22	\$280.89
MCI Everyday Plus**	\$9.85	\$22.04	\$30.88	\$49.27	\$70.16	\$133.79
MCI Everyday Savings**	\$11.02	\$27.74	\$42.08	\$76.38	\$113.57	\$280.14
Qwest Countdown***	\$11.15	\$19.85	\$26.90	\$43.00	\$62.36	\$136.90
Sprint Sense	\$10.51	\$28.12	\$43.32	\$80.49	\$122.97	\$312.37
Sprint Nickel Nights	\$12.47	\$25.57	\$36.05	\$58.54	\$83.02	\$171.88
Sprint Nickel Nights w/FONCARD	\$20.05	\$25.65	\$32.19	\$47.16	\$64.14	\$152.64
Sprint 1000	\$32.52	\$45.03	\$54.32	\$74.42	\$97.12	\$171.07

Subscribe Online Plans⁷

AT&T One Rate ONLINE	\$7.49	\$19.76	\$28.98	\$50.45	\$76.52	\$170.69
AT&T One Rate ONLINE w/CC	\$8.49	\$16.03	\$22.22	\$38.96	\$60.30	\$153.14
Frontier Web Saver	\$4.68	\$11.69	\$17.18	\$31.47	\$49.40	\$123.21
Matrix Simply 9	\$5.72	\$13.90	\$21.22	\$38.25	\$59.70	\$150.26
MCI One Net Savings**	\$5.53	\$18.23	\$27.70	\$48.34	\$72.47	\$152.73
Qwest Countdown Web***	\$6.20	\$14.90	\$21.95	\$38.05	\$57.41	\$131.95

MCI's rates and plans were calculated by TRAC without MCI's participation or verification. *Rate decreases half a penny every three months (Rates effective November 30, 1999)

Comparison Chart

Heavy Night and Weekend Use³

6 Calls 12 Calls 18 Calls 36 Calls 60 Calls 180 Calls
63 Min 121 Min 179 Min 363 Min 605 Min 1815 Min

Plans

Flat Rate Plans With Single Time Period⁵

\$1.29	AT&T Dial 1 Standard
\$1.00	MCI Dial 1 Standard**
\$1.29	Qwest Standard
\$1.29	Sprint Dial 1 Standard

Flat Rate Plans With Single Time Period⁵

\$3.99	AT&T One Rate
\$3.99	AT&T One Rate w/CC
\$3.99	AT&T One Rate 7¢
\$3.99	AT&T One Rate 7¢ w/CC
\$5.99	AT&T One Rate Saver
\$6.99	AT&T One Rate Save w/CC
\$7.99	Excel Dime Deal
\$7.99	Excel Simply 7
\$7.99	Frontier One
\$12.99	Frontier Select
\$18.99	Matrix Just 9.9
\$12.99	Matrix Members Plus
\$12.99	Matrix SaversPlan
\$13.99	MCI 5¢ Anytime**
\$13.99	Qwest Home 5¢ Calling Plan
\$13.99	Sprint Sense Anytime
\$20.99	Sprint Sense Anytime w/ FONCARD

Flat Rate Plans With Multiple Time Periods⁶

\$1.29	AT&T One Rate Plus 5¢ Sundays
\$1.29	AT&T One Rate Plus 5¢ Sundays w/ CC
\$2.99	Excel Three Penny Plan
\$1.99	Frontier Home Connections
\$5.99	Matrix Premier Residential
\$10.99	MCI One Savings**
\$10.99	MCI Everyday**
\$10.99	MCI Everyday Plus**
\$10.99	MCI Everyday Savings**
\$10.99	Qwest Countdown***
\$10.99	Sprint Sense
\$10.99	Sprint Nickel Nights
\$10.99	Sprint Nickel Nights w/FONCARD
\$10.99	Sprint 1000

Subscribe Online Plans⁷

\$9.49	AT&T One Rate ONLINE
\$7.49	AT&T One Rate ONLINE w/CC
\$7.39	Frontier Web Saver
\$7.54	Matrix Simply 9
\$6.05	MCI One Net Savings**
\$6.68	Qwest Countdown Web***

HOW TO READ THIS CHART: Before using this chart, please read page one of TeleTips™. It explains how to determine your personal calling pattern and which call basket best suits you (i.e. Heavy Day Use). Please note that the numbers in this chart may only be compared with other numbers within the same column (or call basket) because of a difference in total minutes between columns with the same number of calls. (For example, compare the total minutes between the three different call baskets that contain six calls.)

ABOUT THIS CHART: Average Daily Use, Heavy Day Use and Heavy Night and Weekend Use are each calculated to contain short, medium and far interstate long distance calls. The primary difference between the three calling groups is the proportion of total calls made during specific times of the day. Please note that each carrier's definitions for day, night and weekend (or "peak" and "off-peak") may be different, changing the distribution for each carrier. See the "Plan Descriptions" and "Calling Time Periods" sections of this publication for information about each plan offered. For the purposes of this chart, all sample calls were calculated as follows: "Day" = Monday, 10 AM; "Evening" = Wednesday, 5 PM - 9 PM; "Night and Weekend" = Saturday or Sunday, 1 PM - 11 PM. Each basket includes a sampling of calling card and long distance directory assistance calls. Each basket includes applicable surcharges and fees.

1. Heavy Night and Weekend Use: This basket is designed for customers who make a high proportion of their calls during the night and weekend. It includes 6 calls, totaling 1815 minutes. The primary difference between the three calling groups is the proportion of total calls made during specific times of the day. Please note that each carrier's definitions for day, night and weekend (or "peak" and "off-peak") may be different, changing the distribution for each carrier. See the "Plan Descriptions" and "Calling Time Periods" sections of this publication for information about each plan offered. For the purposes of this chart, all sample calls were calculated as follows: "Day" = Monday, 10 AM; "Evening" = Wednesday, 5 PM - 9 PM; "Night and Weekend" = Saturday or Sunday, 1 PM - 11 PM. Each basket includes a sampling of calling card and long distance directory assistance calls. Each basket includes applicable surcharges and fees.

2. Heavy Day Use: This basket is designed for customers who make a high proportion of their calls during the day. It includes 6 calls, totaling 605 minutes. The primary difference between the three calling groups is the proportion of total calls made during specific times of the day. Please note that each carrier's definitions for day, night and weekend (or "peak" and "off-peak") may be different, changing the distribution for each carrier. See the "Plan Descriptions" and "Calling Time Periods" sections of this publication for information about each plan offered. For the purposes of this chart, all sample calls were calculated as follows: "Day" = Monday, 10 AM; "Evening" = Wednesday, 5 PM - 9 PM; "Night and Weekend" = Saturday or Sunday, 1 PM - 11 PM. Each basket includes a sampling of calling card and long distance directory assistance calls. Each basket includes applicable surcharges and fees.

3. Average Daily Use: This basket is designed for customers who make a high proportion of their calls during the day. It includes 6 calls, totaling 605 minutes. The primary difference between the three calling groups is the proportion of total calls made during specific times of the day. Please note that each carrier's definitions for day, night and weekend (or "peak" and "off-peak") may be different, changing the distribution for each carrier. See the "Plan Descriptions" and "Calling Time Periods" sections of this publication for information about each plan offered. For the purposes of this chart, all sample calls were calculated as follows: "Day" = Monday, 10 AM; "Evening" = Wednesday, 5 PM - 9 PM; "Night and Weekend" = Saturday or Sunday, 1 PM - 11 PM. Each basket includes a sampling of calling card and long distance directory assistance calls. Each basket includes applicable surcharges and fees.

4. Heavy Night and Weekend Use: This basket is designed for customers who make a high proportion of their calls during the night and weekend. It includes 6 calls, totaling 1815 minutes. The primary difference between the three calling groups is the proportion of total calls made during specific times of the day. Please note that each carrier's definitions for day, night and weekend (or "peak" and "off-peak") may be different, changing the distribution for each carrier. See the "Plan Descriptions" and "Calling Time Periods" sections of this publication for information about each plan offered. For the purposes of this chart, all sample calls were calculated as follows: "Day" = Monday, 10 AM; "Evening" = Wednesday, 5 PM - 9 PM; "Night and Weekend" = Saturday or Sunday, 1 PM - 11 PM. Each basket includes a sampling of calling card and long distance directory assistance calls. Each basket includes applicable surcharges and fees.

5. Flat Rate Plans With Single Time Period: These plans offer a flat rate for a single time period. The primary difference between the three calling groups is the proportion of total calls made during specific times of the day. Please note that each carrier's definitions for day, night and weekend (or "peak" and "off-peak") may be different, changing the distribution for each carrier. See the "Plan Descriptions" and "Calling Time Periods" sections of this publication for information about each plan offered. For the purposes of this chart, all sample calls were calculated as follows: "Day" = Monday, 10 AM; "Evening" = Wednesday, 5 PM - 9 PM; "Night and Weekend" = Saturday or Sunday, 1 PM - 11 PM. Each basket includes a sampling of calling card and long distance directory assistance calls. Each basket includes applicable surcharges and fees.

6. Flat Rate Plans With Multiple Time Periods: These plans offer a flat rate for multiple time periods. The primary difference between the three calling groups is the proportion of total calls made during specific times of the day. Please note that each carrier's definitions for day, night and weekend (or "peak" and "off-peak") may be different, changing the distribution for each carrier. See the "Plan Descriptions" and "Calling Time Periods" sections of this publication for information about each plan offered. For the purposes of this chart, all sample calls were calculated as follows: "Day" = Monday, 10 AM; "Evening" = Wednesday, 5 PM - 9 PM; "Night and Weekend" = Saturday or Sunday, 1 PM - 11 PM. Each basket includes a sampling of calling card and long distance directory assistance calls. Each basket includes applicable surcharges and fees.

7. Subscribe Online Plans: These plans offer a flat rate for a single time period. The primary difference between the three calling groups is the proportion of total calls made during specific times of the day. Please note that each carrier's definitions for day, night and weekend (or "peak" and "off-peak") may be different, changing the distribution for each carrier. See the "Plan Descriptions" and "Calling Time Periods" sections of this publication for information about each plan offered. For the purposes of this chart, all sample calls were calculated as follows: "Day" = Monday, 10 AM; "Evening" = Wednesday, 5 PM - 9 PM; "Night and Weekend" = Saturday or Sunday, 1 PM - 11 PM. Each basket includes a sampling of calling card and long distance directory assistance calls. Each basket includes applicable surcharges and fees.

**MCI's rates and plans were calculated by TRAC without MCI's participation or verification.

***Rate decreases half a penny every three months

(Rates effective November 30, 1999)

Features and Services

HELPFUL TIPS FOR UNDERSTANDING THIS CHART

(1) **Billing Increments** refer to the rounding practices used in billing. Most long distance carriers bill consumers by rounding up the cost of each call to the next minute. Others bill in six-second increments, rounding up to the nearest tenth of a minute.

(2) **Equal Access Codes (EAC)** are numbers you can dial to use a carrier other than your primary long distance provider. Dial the EAC, then 1, then the number you are calling. Determine if there are access charges or other fees.

(3) **Casual Calling** allows you to make calls using equal access codes without switching carriers. You will be billed through your local phone company. Casual or "standard" rates are usually the company's highest. A per-call fee typically applies.

(4) **TTY (Text Telephone)** is a telecommunications device that deploys coded symbols through a wire or radio communications systems. It enables people with hearing or speaking disabilities to communicate over standard phone lines.

(5) **Payphone Surcharge** applies to calls made from a payphone with a calling card.

(6) **Residential Toll-Free Service** is a popular alternative to collect calling. Customers may distribute their number to family and friends and are billed for all usage on their regular long distance bill.

(7) **Internet, Cellular and Paging Services** are among the many new services being offered by long distance carriers. If you use these services, look for special offers or discounted packages from your phone company.

(8) **Presubscribed Interexchange Carrier Charge (PICC)** is a FCC-mandated fee that helps local phone companies recover the costs of maintaining local phone networks from long distance carriers.

(9) **Universal Service Fund (USF)** supports programs that provide phone service to rural areas, assist low-income consumers and connect schools and libraries to the Internet.

Carriers	AT&T
Leading Plans	AT&T Dial-1 Standard; AT&T One Rate; AT&T One Rate 7Cents; AT&T One Rate Saver; AT&T One Rate Plus 5¢ Sundays; AT&T One Rate Online
Toll-Free Customer Service Numbers	(800) 222-0300 or (800) 235-0900 (Spanish)
Monthly Fees/Monthly Minimums	AT&T Dial-1 Standard: \$3 monthly minimum AT&T One Rate: None AT&T One Rate 7 Cents: \$5.95 monthly fee AT&T One Rate Saver: \$8.95 monthly fee AT&T One Rate Plus 5¢ Sundays: \$4.95 monthly fee AT&T One Rate Online: None
Flat Rate	AT&T Dial-1 Standard: 26¢/minute (7 AM-6:59 PM weekdays); 16¢/minute (7 PM-6:59 AM weekdays); and 11.5¢/minute on weekends. AT&T One Rate: 15¢/minute all the time AT&T One Rate 7 Cents: 7¢/minute all the time AT&T One Rate Saver: 5¢/minute all the time AT&T One Rate Plus 5¢ Sundays: 10¢/minute Mon-Sat; 5¢/minute Sundays AT&T One Rate Online: 9¢/minute all the time
Billing Increments ¹	60:60 (Full Minute)
Equal Access Code ²	10-10-288
Equal Access Billing ³	Casual/standard rates if not subscribed to AT&T
Long Distance Directory Assistance (LDDA) Charge	\$1.40/call when dialing 1+(area code)+555-1212 or Dial 00-Info or 1-800-CALLATT for 99¢/call.
Free LDDA if Unable to Use Phone Book Due to Disability	Yes, with medical documentation.
Customer Service with TTY ⁴	Yes. Call (800) 833-3232.
Discounts for TTY Users ⁴	Yes.
Calling Card Rates/Times/Availability	AT&T Dial-1 Standard, AT&T One Rate; AT&T One Rate 7 Cents, AT&T One Rate Saver, AT&T One Rate Online: 59¢/minute. All customers may sign up for an alternative calling card: AT&T One Rate Calling Card Plan that offers a 25¢/min. flat rate with no call surcharge/ \$1 monthly fee.
Calling Card Surcharge (Per Call)	AT&T Dial-1 Standard; AT&T One Rate; AT&T One Rate 7Cents; AT&T One Rate Saver; AT&T One Rate Plus 5¢ Sundays; AT&T One Rate Online: 99¢/call No calling card surcharge with AT&T One Rate Calling Card Plan
Payphone Surcharge ⁵	30¢/call (AT&T One Rate Calling Card Plan customers have no payphone surcharge).
Credit Card Payments	Master Card, Visa, American Express, and Diners Club
Residential Toll Free Service ⁶ (800, 888, 877)	Available. 25¢/minute. Monthly \$1 fee for One Rate Plus or One Rate Calling Card customers, monthly charge is \$2.50. Monthly fee is waived if total 800 monthly usage is \$10 or more.
Credit Wrong Numbers/Cancel Service	(800) 222-0300 or dial "00"
Internet Access ⁷	Available through AT&T WorldNet.
Cellular Long Distance ⁷	Available.
Paging Services ⁷	Available through AT&T Wireless Services.
Internet Address	http://www.att.com
Monthly PICC Fee ⁸	\$1.51 per account

Comparison Chart

Excel	Frontier	Matrix
	Frontier Home Connections; Frontier One; Frontier Select; Frontier Web Saver	
	(800) 482-4848	
	Frontier Select: \$4.95 for any given month where usage is less than \$30. Frontier Web Saver, Frontier HomeConnections; Frontier One: None No monthly minimums	
	Frontier Home Connections: 25¢/minute peak; 10¢ off peak and weekends. Frontier One: 15¢/minute all time Frontier Select: 10¢/minute at the time Frontier Web Saver: 8¢/minute all the time	
	60:60 (Full minute)	
	10-10-444	
	Casual/same rates, no volume discounts	
	\$1.10/call	
	No.	
	Yes. Call (800) 350-2326	
	No.	
	Frontier Home Connections: 28¢/minute, 55¢ for operator assistance Frontier One, Frontier Select, Frontier Web Saver; 25¢/minute	
	None.	
	26¢/call.	
	Visa, Master Card, American Express, Discover	
	Available for \$3.95/month. PIN toll-free number through Simple Connect also available for 93¢/month. 24 min. (8 AM-4:59 PM M-F) (all other times)	
	(800) 483-4848	
	Available through Internet @ Frontier	
	Not available	
	Not available	
	http://www.frontiercorp.com	
	\$1.04/primary residential line; \$2.53/nonprimary	

Features and Services

HELPFUL TIPS FOR UNDERSTANDING THIS CHART

(1) **Billing Increments** refer to the rounding practices used in billing. Most long distance carriers bill consumers by rounding up the cost of each call to the next minute. Others bill in six-second increments, rounding up to the nearest tenth of a minute.

(2) **Equal Access Codes (EAC)** are numbers you can dial to use a carrier other than your primary long distance provider. Dial the EAC, then 1, then the number you are calling. Determine if there are access charges or other fees.

(3) **Casual Calling** allows you to make calls using equal access codes without switching carriers. You will be billed through your local phone company. Casual or "standard" rates are usually the company's highest. A per-call fee typically applies.

(4) **TTY (Text Telephone)** is a telecommunications device that deploys coded symbols through a wire or radio communications system. It enables people with hearing or speaking disabilities to communicate over standard phone lines.

(5) **Payphone Surcharge** applies to calls made from a payphone with a calling card.

(6) **Residential Toll-Free Service** is a popular alternative to collect calling. Customers may distribute their number to family and friends and are billed for all usage on their regular long distance bill.

(7) **Internet, Cellular and Paging Services** are among the many new services being offered by long distance carriers. If you use these services, look for special offers or discounted packages from your phone company.

(8) **Presubscribed Interexchange Carrier Charge (PICC)** is a FCC - mandated fee that helps local phone companies recover the costs of maintaining local phone networks from long distance carriers.

(9) **Universal Service Fund (USF)** supports programs that provide phone service to rural areas, assist low-income consumers and connect schools and libraries to the Internet.

Carriers	MCI WorldCom
Leading Plans	MCI Dial-1 Standard; MCI One Net Savings; MCI One Savings; MCI 5¢ Anytime.
Toll-Free Customer Service Numbers	800-444-3333
Monthly Fees/Monthly Minimums	MCI Dial-1 Standard: \$3.00 monthly min. One Savings, One Net Savings: \$5.00 monthly min. MCI 5¢ Anytime: \$8.95 monthly fee; \$7.95 if MCI is chosen for local toll calling; \$6.95 with credit card billing. MCI Everyday, MCI Everyday Plus: \$4.95 monthly fee. MCI Everyday Savings: \$1.95 monthly fee; \$5.00 monthly minimum.
Flat Rates	MCI Dial-1 Standard: Rates are based on time and distance of call. MCI 5¢ Anytime: 5¢/minute all the time. MCI One Net Savings: 9¢/minute Monday-Friday and 5¢ Sun./Sat.. MCI One Savings: 7¢/minute 7AM-6:59 PM Monday-Friday; 10¢/minute 7PM-6:59 AM Mon.-Fri. and Sat./5¢ Sundays. MCI Everyday: 10¢/minute 7AM-6:59 PM Mon.-Fri.; 5¢ all other times. MCI Everyday Plus: 7¢/minute 7AM-6:59 PM Mon.-Fri. 5¢ all other times. MCI Everyday Savings: 25¢/minute 7AM-6:59 PM Mon.-Fri.; 5¢ all other times.
Billing Increments ¹	Full minute (60:60).
Equal Access Code ²	10-10-222
Equal Access Billing ³	Basic/Standard rates.
Long Distance Directory Assistance (LDDA) Charge	\$1.40 when dialing 1+area code+555-1212 or dial 10-10-9000 for 99¢.
Free LDDA if Unable to Use Phone Book Due to Disability	Yes, with medical documentation.
Customer Service with TTY ⁴	Yes.
Discounts for TTY Users ⁴	No.
Calling Card Rates/Times/Availability	MCI Dial-1: 59¢/minute MCI One Savings: 59¢/minute; customer is charged calling plan rates when using calling card to call home. MCI One Net Savings: 59¢/minute. MCI Everyday, MCI Everyday Plus, MCI Everyday Saving: 59¢/minute. MCI 5¢ Anytime: 59¢/minute.
Calling Card Surcharge (Per Call)	99¢/call.
Payphone Surcharge ⁵	26¢/call.
Credit Card Payments	Visa, Mastercard, Discover, American Express.
Residential Toll Free Service ⁶ (800, 888, 877)	Available. 30¢/min. in state/ 35¢/min. out of state
Credit Wrong Numbers/Cancel Service	(800)444-3333
Internet Access ⁷	Available.
Cellular Long Distance ⁷	Available.
Paging Services ⁷	Not available.
Internet Address	www.mciworldcom.com
Monthly PICC Fee ⁸	\$1.46
Monthly USF Fee ⁹	7.2% of total interstate and international usage.

Comparison Chart

Qwest

Sprint

Sprint Dial-1 Standard, Sprint Nickel Nights, Sprint Sense Anytime, Sprint Sense, Sprint Sense 1000

800-746-3767 or 800-877-0280 (Spanish)

Sprint Dial-1 Standard: None.

Sprint Sense Anytime: \$4.95 monthly fee (waived if monthly bill exceeds \$30);

Sprint Sense: \$5.00 monthly minimum.

Sprint Nickel Nights: \$5.95 monthly fee; no monthly minimum

Sprint Nickel Nights w/FONCARD: \$12.95 monthly fee; no monthly minimum

SSAT w/FONCARD: \$10.95 monthly fee; no monthly minimum

Sprint 1000: \$25.00 monthly fee; no monthly minimum

Sprint Dial-1 Standard: 30¢/minute weekday, 10¢/minute weekend

Sprint Sense Anytime: 10¢/minute all the time

SSAT w/FONCARD: 10¢/minute all the time

Sprint Sense: 25¢/minute weekday, 7 AM - 6:59 PM; 10¢/minute all other times

Sprint Nickel Nights: 10¢/minutes 7 AM - 6:59 PM, 5¢/minute 7 PM - 6:59 AM

Sprint Nickel Nights w/FONCARD: 10¢/minute 7 PM - 6:59 AM; 5¢/minute 7 AM - 6:59 AM

Sprint 1000: 10¢/minute weekdays, free usage on weekends up to 1,000 minutes 5¢/minute after 1,000 minutes.

60:60 (full minute)

10-10-333

40¢/minute with a \$2.45 surcharge. Casual/Standard rates.

\$1.40 per call.

Yes.

Yes. Call (800) 735-2988.

Yes.

Sprint Dial-1 Standard, Sprint Sense Anytime, Sprint 1000: 59¢/minute

Sprint Sense: FONCARD has a flat rate of 30¢/minute.

Sprint Sense Anytime and Sprint Unlimited customers may sign up for an alternative calling card: **FONCARD**, which is 10¢/minute all the time w/no surcharge and 10¢/minute toll free service for \$10 monthly fee.

Sprint Sense, Sprint Dial-1 Standard, Sprint Nickel Nights, Sprint 100, and Sprint Sense Day: 99¢/call.

Sprint Sense Anytime, SSAT w/FONCARD, Sprint Nickel Nights w/FONCARD, and Sprint Unlimited: None.

26¢/call.

Visa, MasterCard and Discover

Peak (7 AM - 6:59 PM, weekdays): 25¢/minute. **Off-peak:** 10¢/minute.

Monthly usage fee of \$3 (waived for monthly usage greater than \$20). **Sprint Sense Anytime and Sprint Unlimited** customers may sign up for 10¢/minute all the time in conjunction with **FONCARD**, which is 10¢/minute for \$10 monthly fee.

800-877-4646 or dial "00"

Available through Sprint Internet Passport.

Yes.

Yes.

www.sprint.com

\$1.50/month per account.

8.4% of interstate and international revenues.

Plan Descriptions

STANDARD RATE PLANS

These are usually the highest rates charged by a long distance carrier. Rates in the past have typically been based on the distance (bands) of the call placed, but in the past few months most companies have switched to a "nationalized" rate (one rate anywhere domestic). Many services plans are actually based on the same "Standard Rate Plan" (e.g., you will save 25 percent by signing up for this plan). When you obtain your service, you will be asked to sign a contract for a minimum or pre-subscribe to your plan for a four month period (you can cancel at any time, but you will be charged the minimum fee you want). You may be able to cancel your service and bill through your credit card company. When you are placed when you bring your long distance service, you are placed when you bring your long distance service.

AT&T DIAL-1 STANDARD

- ✓ Peak calls (7 AM - 6:59 PM weekdays) are 26¢/minute.
- ✓ Off-peak calls (7 PM - 6:59 AM weekdays) are 16¢/minute.
- ✓ Weekend calls are 11.5¢/minute.
- ✓ Calling card calls are 59¢/minute with a 99¢ surcharge.
- ✓ \$3 monthly minimum.

QWEST STANDARD

- ✓ Offers a flat rate of 15¢/minute all the time.
- ✓ Calling card offers two rates, depending on the time of day:
Peak (weekdays, 8 AM - 5 PM) - 25¢/minute;
Off-peak (all other times) - 20¢/minute.
- ✓ Calling card surcharge is 55¢ per call.

MCI DIAL-1 STANDARD

- ✓ Rates are based on time and distance of call.
- ✓ Sundays are 5¢/minute.
- ✓ Calling card rates are 59¢/minute with a 99¢ per call surcharge.
- ✓ \$3 monthly minimum.

SPRINT DIAL-1 STANDARD

- ✓ Weekday calls are 30¢/minute; weekend calls are 10¢/min.
- ✓ Calling card rate is 59¢/minute with a 99¢ call surcharge.
- ✓ Offers multilingual customer service.

ONE RATE PLANS

These plans are usually the lowest rates charged by a long distance carrier. They are based on a flat rate of 15¢/minute all the time. When you obtain your service, you will be asked to sign a contract for a minimum or pre-subscribe to your plan for a four month period (you can cancel at any time, but you will be charged the minimum fee you want). You may be able to cancel your service and bill through your credit card company. When you are placed when you bring your long distance service, you are placed when you bring your long distance service.

AT&T ONE RATE

- ✓ Offers a flat rate of 15¢/minute all the time.
- ✓ Calling card is 59¢/minute with 99¢ call surcharge.
- ✓ No monthly fee.
- ✓ Customers may sign up for an alternative calling card: **AT&T One Rate Calling Card**, which offers a flat rate of 25¢/minute with no call surcharge and a \$1 monthly fee.

AT&T ONE RATE 7 CENTS

- ✓ Offers a flat rate of 7¢/minute all the time.
- ✓ Calling card is 59¢/minute with 99¢ call surcharge or 25¢/minute and \$1 monthly fee with One Rate Calling card option.
- ✓ \$5.95 monthly fee (fee goes to \$4.95 if AT&T is chosen for local toll calling).

Comparison Chart

AT&T ONE RATE SAVER

- ✓ Offers a flat rate of 5¢/minute all the time.
- ✓ Calling card is 59¢/minute with 99¢ per call surcharge or 25¢/minute and \$1 monthly fee with One Rate calling card option.
- ✓ \$8.95 monthly fee (fee goes to \$7.95 if AT&T is chosen for local toll calling and can go to \$6.95 if credit card billing option is taken).

EXCEL DIME DEAL

- ✓ Offers a flat rate of 10¢/minute all the time.
- ✓ Has a recurring \$1 monthly fee.
- ✓ Calling card is 31¢/minute with a 58¢ per call surcharge.
- ✓ When calling other Excel residential and small business customers, this plan applies a 50 percent discount to all minutes of the call after the first minute for calling card calls.

EXCEL SIMPLY 7

- ✓ Offers a flat rate of 7¢/minute all the time.
- ✓ Has a recurring \$4.95 monthly fee.
- ✓ Calling card is 31¢/minute with a 58¢ per call surcharge.
- ✓ After 2,000 monthly off peak minutes, rate is 10¢/minute.

FRONTIER ONE

- ✓ Offers a flat rate of 15¢/minute all the time.
- ✓ Calling card is 25¢/minute with no call surcharge.

FRONTIER SELECT

- ✓ Offers a flat rate of 10¢/minute all the time.
- ✓ Charges \$4.95 if monthly usage is less than \$30.
- ✓ Calling card is 25¢/minute with no call surcharge.
- ✓ This plan is marketed to residential customers who bill more than \$30 per month in long distance.

MATRIX JUST 9.9

- ✓ Offers a flat rate of 9.9¢/minute all the time.
- ✓ No monthly fee.
- ✓ Calling card is 25¢/minute with a 25¢ per call surcharge.
- ✓ \$3.95 monthly minimum.
- ✓ No payphone surcharge with calling card.

MATRIX MEMBER PLUS

- ✓ Offers a flat rate of 8.9¢/minute all the time.
- ✓ Calling card is 25¢/minute with a 25¢ per call surcharge.
- ✓ Long distance directory assistance calls are 5¢/call.
- ✓ Has a \$4.95 monthly fee.

MATRIX SAVERSPLAN

- ✓ Offers a flat rate of 9.5¢/minute all the time.
- ✓ Calling card is 25¢/minute with a 25¢ per call surcharge.
- ✓ Has a \$3.95 monthly fee.

MCI FIVE CENTS ANYTIME

- ✓ Offers a flat rate of 5¢/minute all the time.
- ✓ Calling card is 59¢/minute with 99¢ per call surcharge.
- ✓ \$8.95 monthly fee (fee goes to \$7.95 if MCI is chosen for local toll calling and can go to \$6.95 if credit card option is also taken).

QWEST 5¢ CALLING PLAN

- ✓ Offers a flat rate of 5¢/minute all the time.
- ✓ Has a \$8.95 monthly fee.
- ✓ Offers exact second billing after the first minute.
- ✓ Calling card is 10¢/minute with no call surcharge.

SPRINT SENSE ANYTIME

- ✓ Offers a flat rate of 10¢/minute all the time.
- ✓ Has a \$4.95 monthly fee (waived if monthly usage exceeds \$30).
- ✓ Calling card is 59¢/minute with 99¢ per call surcharge.
- ✓ Can opt for FONCARD calling card and toll free option for 10¢/minute with \$10.95 monthly fee.

Plan Descriptions

These plans are designed to provide a reasonable degree of protection to the public, based on the time of day, month, and year, which would be subject to varying demand characteristics and peak rate, corresponding to the changing pattern of electricity use. The plans also will encourage load growth and well suited to consumer convenience, and will be subject to periodic review in the event of changing circumstances.

These plans are designed to provide a reasonable degree of protection to the public, based on the time of day, month, and year, which would be subject to varying demand characteristics and peak rate, corresponding to the changing pattern of electricity use. The plans also will encourage load growth and well suited to consumer convenience, and will be subject to periodic review in the event of changing circumstances.

AT&T ONE RATE PLUS WITH 5¢ SUNDAYS

- ✓ Weekday and Saturday calls are 10¢/minute all the time.
- ✓ Sunday calls are 5¢/minute all the time.
- ✓ Has a \$4.95 monthly fee.
- ✓ Calling card rate is 59¢/minute with a 99¢ call surcharge.
- ✓ Customers may sign up for an alternative calling card: **AT&T One Rate Calling Card**, which offers a flat rate of 25¢/minute with no call surcharge and a \$1 monthly fee.

- AT&T ONE RATE PLUS WITH 5¢ SUNDAYS**
- ✓ Weekday and Saturday calls are 10¢/minute all the time.
 - ✓ Sunday calls are 5¢/minute all the time.
 - ✓ Has a \$4.95 monthly fee.
 - ✓ Calling card rate is 59¢/minute with a 99¢ call surcharge.
 - ✓ Customers may sign up for an alternative calling card: **AT&T One Rate Calling Card**, which offers a flat rate of 25¢/minute with no call surcharge and a \$1 monthly fee.

EXCEL THREE PENNY PLAN

- ✓ Offers a flat rate of 10¢/minute weekdays 7 AM - 6:59 PM.
- ✓ Offers a flat rate 3¢/minute weekdays 7 PM - 6:59 AM and weekends. After 2,000 monthly off-peak minutes, reverts to 10¢/minute.
- ✓ Calling card is 31¢/minute with 58¢ per call surcharge.
- ✓ \$5.95 monthly fee.

- ### EXCEL THREE PENNY PLAN
- ✓ Offers a flat rate of 10¢/minute weekdays 7 AM - 6:59 PM.
 - ✓ Offers a flat rate 3¢/minute weekdays 7 PM - 6:59 AM and weekends. After 2,000 monthly off-peak minutes, reverts to 10¢/minute.
 - ✓ Calling card is 31¢/minute with 58¢ per call surcharge.
 - ✓ \$5.95 monthly fee.

FRONTIER HOME CONNECTIONS

- ✓ Offers flat rates for peak and off-peak calls.
- ✓ The peak rate (7 AM - 6:59 PM weekdays) is 25¢/minute.
- ✓ The off-peak rate (weekdays from 7 PM - 6:59 AM and all day Saturday, Sunday and holidays) is 10¢/minute.
- ✓ In areas where Frontier is the local phone company, long distance and local calls will appear on one billing statement.
- ✓ Calling card is 25¢/minute with no call surcharge.

- ## FRONTIER HOME CONNECTIONS
- ✓ Offers flat rates for peak and off-peak calls.
 - ✓ The peak rate (7 AM - 6:59 PM weekdays) is 25¢/minute.
 - ✓ The off-peak rate (weekdays from 7 PM - 6:59 AM and all day Saturday, Sunday and holidays) is 10¢/minute.
 - ✓ In areas where Frontier is the local phone company, long distance and local calls will appear on one billing statement.
 - ✓ Calling card is 25¢/minute with no call surcharge.

MCI EVERYDAY

- ✓ Offers a flat rate of 10¢/minute weekdays 7 AM - 6:59 PM.
- ✓ Offers a flat rate of 5¢/minute weekdays 7 PM - 6:59 AM and weekends.
- ✓ Calling card is 59¢/minute with a 99¢ per call surcharge.
- ✓ \$4.95 monthly fee.

- MCI EVERYDAY**
- ✓ Offers a flat rate of 10¢/minute weekdays 7 AM - 6:59 PM.
 - ✓ Offers a flat rate of 5¢/minute weekdays 7 PM - 6:59 AM and weekends.
 - ✓ Calling card is 59¢/minute with a 99¢ per call surcharge.
 - ✓ \$4.95 monthly fee.

MCI EVERYDAY PLUS

- ✓ Offers a flat rate of 7¢/minute weekdays 7 AM - 6:59 PM.
- ✓ Offers a flat rate of 5¢/minute weekdays 7 PM - 6:59 AM and weekends.
- ✓ Calling card is 59¢/minute with a 99¢ per call surcharge.
- ✓ \$4.95 monthly fee.

- MCI EVERYDAY PLUS**
- ✓ Offers a flat rate of 7¢/minute weekdays 7 AM - 6:59 PM.
 - ✓ Offers a flat rate of 5¢/minute weekdays 7 PM - 6:59 AM and weekends.
 - ✓ Calling card is 59¢/minute with a 99¢ per call surcharge.
 - ✓ \$4.95 monthly fee.

MCI EVERYDAY SAVINGS

- ✓ Offers a flat rate of 25¢/minute weekdays 7 AM - 6:59 PM.
- ✓ Offers a flat rate of 5¢/minute weekdays 7 PM - 6:59 AM and weekends.
- ✓ Calling card is 59¢/minute with a 99¢ per call surcharge.
- ✓ \$1.95 monthly fee.

- MCI EVERYDAY SAVINGS**
- ✓ Offers a flat rate of 25¢/minute weekdays 7 AM - 6:59 PM.
 - ✓ Offers a flat rate of 5¢/minute weekdays 7 PM - 6:59 AM and weekends.
 - ✓ Calling card is 59¢/minute with a 99¢ per call surcharge.
 - ✓ \$1.95 monthly fee.

MCI ONE SAVINGS

- ✓ Offers rates for three calling periods.
- ✓ 25¢/minute Monday-Friday 7AM-6:59 PM.
- ✓ 10¢/minute Monday-Friday 7PM-6:59 AM and all day Saturday.
- ✓ 5¢/minute on Sunday.
- ✓ \$5 monthly minimum.
- ✓ Calling card is 59¢/minute with 99¢ per call surcharge. (When calling home, rate is customer's calling plan rate).

- MCI ONE SAVINGS**
- ✓ Offers rates for three calling periods.
 - ✓ 25¢/minute Monday-Friday 7AM-6:59 PM.
 - ✓ 10¢/minute Monday-Friday 7PM-6:59 AM and all day Saturday.
 - ✓ 5¢/minute on Sunday.
 - ✓ \$5 monthly minimum.
 - ✓ Calling card is 59¢/minute with 99¢ per call surcharge. (When calling home, rate is customer's calling plan rate).

QWEST COUNTDOWN

- ✓ Offers a flat rate of 9¢/minute weekdays.
- ✓ Offers a flat rate of 5¢/minute weekends.
- ✓ Calling card is 30¢/minute with a 99¢ per call surcharge.
- ✓ \$4.95 monthly fee.
- ✓ Rate drops to 1/2¢ every 3 months.

- ### QWEST COUNTDOWN
- ✓ Offers a flat rate of 9¢/minute weekdays.
 - ✓ Offers a flat rate of 5¢/minute weekends.
 - ✓ Calling card is 30¢/minute with a 99¢ per call surcharge.
 - ✓ \$4.95 monthly fee.
 - ✓ Rate drops to 1/2¢ every 3 months.

Comparison Chart

SPRINT NICKEL NIGHTS

- ✓ \$5.95 monthly fee.
- ✓ The peak rate (weekdays 7 AM - 6:59 PM) is 10¢/minute.
- ✓ The off-peak rate (weekdays 7 PM - 6:59 AM) is 5¢/minute.
- ✓ Calling card is 59¢/minute with a 99¢ per call surcharge.
- ✓ With FONCARD option, monthly fee is \$12.95 with same long distance rates, but calling card rates change to 15¢/minute (7 AM - 6:59 PM daily), 5¢/minute (7 PM - 6:59 AM daily).

SPRINT SENSE

- ✓ Offers flat rate pricing in two calling periods.
- ✓ The peak rate (weekdays 7 AM - 6:59 PM) is 25¢/minute.
- ✓ The off-peak rate (all other times) is 10¢/minute.
- ✓ Calling card is 59¢/minute with a 99¢ per call surcharge.
- ✓ \$5 monthly minimum.

SPRINT 1000

- ✓ Offers customers a flat rate of 10¢/minute for weekday calls, 24 hours a day.
- ✓ Calls on Saturdays and Sundays are free up to 1,000 minutes (except calling card calls).
- ✓ Has a recurring monthly fee of \$25.
- ✓ Calling card rate is 59¢/minute with 99¢/ call surcharge.

SPRINT ONE RATE

SPRINT ONE RATE is a flat rate service that allows customers to make unlimited long distance calls to the United States and Canada for a flat monthly fee of \$19.95. The service is available to customers who are on a SPRINT 1000 or SPRINT SENSE plan. A calling card is required for this service. The flat rate is in effect from 7 AM to 6:59 PM on weekdays. Outside of this time period, calls are billed at the standard SPRINT rates. A 99¢ per call surcharge applies to all calls made using a calling card. The service is not available to customers who are on a SPRINT NICKEL NIGHTS plan.

AT&T ONE RATE ONLINE

- ✓ Offers a flat rate of 9¢/minute all the time to AT&T WorldNet subscribers.
- ✓ Calling card rate is 59¢/minute with a 99¢ call surcharge.
- ✓ Calls are billed to customer's credit card.
- ✓ No monthly fee.
- ✓ Customers may sign up for an alternative calling card: **AT&T One Rate Calling Card** that offers a flat rate of 25¢/minute with no call surcharge and a \$1 monthly fee.

FRONTIER WEB SAVER

- ✓ Available only to customers who sign up through Frontier's corporate Internet site (www.frontiercorp.com).
- ✓ Offers a flat rate of 8¢/minute all the time.
- ✓ No monthly minimums.
- ✓ Credit card billing required.
- ✓ Calling card is 25¢/minute with no calling card surcharge.
- ✓ This plan is marketed to residential customers who are Internet users. The reduced rate reflects the lower cost of doing business over the Internet.

MCI ONE NET SAVINGS

- ✓ Rate is 9¢/minute Monday-Saturday and 5¢/minute Sunday.
- ✓ \$5.00 monthly minimum.
- ✓ Calling card is 59¢/minute with 99¢ per call surcharge.
- ✓ Offered to customers who sign up via the Internet.
- ✓ Credit card billing required.

MATRIX SIMPLY 9

- ✓ No monthly fee.
- ✓ Offered to customers who sign up via the Internet only.
- ✓ Offers a flat rate of 9¢/minute all the time.
- ✓ Calling card rate is 25¢/minute with a 25¢ per call surcharge.
- ✓ Calls are billed to customer's credit card.

QWEST COUNTDOWN WEB

- ✓ Offers a flat rate of 9¢/minute weekdays.
- ✓ Offers a flat rate of 5¢/minute weekends.
- ✓ Calling card is 30¢/minute with 99¢ per call surcharge.
- ✓ No monthly fee.

Telecommunications Research and Action Center

Membership Information

TRAC is a nonprofit, tax-exempt, membership organization based in Washington, D.C. Its primary goal is to promote the interests of residential telecommunications customers.

TRAC's staff researches telecommunications issues and publishes TeleTips™ Residential and Small Business Long Distance Charts to help consumers make informed decisions regarding their long distance service.

TRAC PUBLICATIONS	COST
TeleTips™ Small Business Long Distance Chart	\$7
TeleTips™ Residential Long Distance Chart	\$5
Using Telephone Directory Assistance Services brochure	\$1
Dial Around Comparison Chart	\$1

To order copies of these TRAC publications, please send a check or money order and a self-addressed, stamped, business-sized (#10) envelope with 55¢ postage to:

TRAC
P.O. Box 27279
Washington, D.C. 20005

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TRAC is governed by a Board of Directors comprised of prominent leaders in the consumer, religious and civil rights movements. TRAC was formerly known as the National Citizens Committee on Broadcasting, founded in 1967. The name was changed in 1982 to reflect the changing role in consumer advocacy.

VISIT US ON THE WEB AT
[HTTP://WWW.TRAC.ORG](http://WWW.TRAC.ORG)

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

☐ **YES! I want to join TRAC in order to keep my telephone service affordable.**

I want to receive the *TeleTips*™ publications, including the two residential and small business issues, as well as any supplements. I want to be a well-informed consumer and not worry about missing the hottest, new, money-saving plans. I want to be able to have my questions answered through the TRAC web site.

MEMBERSHIP TYPES

	1 YEAR	2 YEARS
Individual	\$25	\$40
Business/Association	\$50	\$80
Student	\$10	\$18
Sustaining		\$250

NAME: _____

ORGANIZATION: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE: _____ FAX: _____

E-MAIL: _____

Please send a check or money order, payable to TRAC and mail to TRAC, P.O. Box 27279, Washington, D.C. 20005

